

STATEMENT OF BASIS

as required by LAC 33:IX.3109 for LPDES facilities where a fact sheet is not required under LAC 33:IX.3311, for draft Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. LA0123684; AI 151677; PER20080001 to discharge to waters of the State of Louisiana as per LAC 33:IX.2311.

The permitting authority for the Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) is:

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Environmental Services
P. O. Box 4313
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313

- I. **THE APPLICANT IS:** Ascension Wastewater Treatment, Inc
 Manchac Harbor Crossing
 17188 Airline Highway, Suite M-157
 Praireville, LA 70759

- II. **PREPARED BY:** Rachel Owens

- DATE PREPARED:** April 4, 2008

- III. **PERMIT ACTION:** Issue LPDES permit LA0123684, AI 151677; PER20080001

LPDES application received: August 30, 2007

EPA has not retained enforcement authority.

This facility does not qualify for the Class III Sanitary Discharge General Permit because of the close proximity of the facility to Bayou Manchac which is an impaired waterbody.

IV. **FACILITY INFORMATION:**

- A. The application is for the discharge of treated sanitary wastewater from a proposed privately owned treatment facility serving the Manchac Harbor Crossing Subdivision

- B. The permit application does not indicate the receipt of industrial wastewater.

- C. The facility is located on Hwy 42 approx. 0.25 miles west of Hwy 929 in Praireville, Ascension Parish.

- D. The treatment facility consists of an extended aeration sewage treatment plant with chlorine disinfection.

- E. Outfall 001

Discharge Location: Latitude 30° 20' 21" North
 Longitude 90° 56' 51" West

Description: treated sanitary wastewater

Average Expected Flow: 73 Homes x 400 GPD = 0.0292 MGD

Calculations for gallons per day were based upon figures obtained from Chapter 15 of the State of Louisiana Sanitary Code, Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health

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V. RECEIVING WATERS:

The discharge is into a parish drainage ditch, thence into Cotton Bayou, thence into Bayou Manchac in segment 040201 of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin. This segment is listed on the 303(d) list of impaired waterbodies.

The designated uses and degree of support for Segment 040201 of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin are as indicated in the table below^{1/}:

Overall Degree of Support for Segment 040201	Degree of Support of Each Use						
	Primary Contact Recreation	Secondary Contact Recreation	Propagation of Fish & Wildlife	Outstanding Natural Resource Water	Drinking Water Supply	Shell fish Propagation	Agriculture
Not Supported	Not Supported	Not Supported	Not Supported	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

^{1/}The designated uses and degree of support for Segment 040201 of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin are as indicated in LAC 33:IX.1123.C.3, Table (3) and the 2004 Water Quality Management Plan, Water Quality Inventory Integrated Report, Appendix A, respectively.

VI. ENDANGERED SPECIES:

The receiving waterbody, Subsegment 040201 of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin, is not listed in Section 11.2 of the Implementation Strategy as requiring consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). This strategy was submitted with a letter dated October 24, 2007 from Boggs (FWS) to Brown (LDEQ). Therefore, in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the LDEQ and the FWS, no further informal (Section 7, Endangered Species Act) consultation is required. It was determined that the issuance of the LPDES permit is not likely to have an adverse effect on any endangered or candidate species or the critical habitat. The effluent limitations established in the permit ensure protection of aquatic life and maintenance of the receiving water as aquatic habitat.

VII. HISTORIC SITES:

The discharge will be from a proposed facility. LDEQ has consulted with the State Historical Preservation Officer (SHPO) in a letter dated September 13, 2007, to determine whether construction-related activities could potentially affect sites or properties on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. SHPO's response letter, dated October 12, 2007, stated that the facility as proposed will have no potential effects.

VIII. PUBLIC NOTICE:

Upon publication of the public notice, a public comment period shall begin on the date of publication and last for at least 30 days thereafter. During this period, any interested persons may submit written comments on the draft permit modification and may request a public hearing to clarify issues involved in the permit decision at this Office's address on the first page of the statement of basis. A request for a public hearing shall be in writing and shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing.

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Public notice published in:

Local newspaper of general circulation

Office of Environmental Services Public Notice Mailing List

For additional information, contact:

Ms. Rachel Owens
Permits Division
Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Environmental Services
P. O. Box 4313
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313

IX. PROPOSED PERMIT LIMITS:

Subsegment 040201, Bayou Manchac – Headwaters to Amite River, is listed on LDEQ's Final 2006 303(d) List as impaired for ammonia (total ammonia), phosphorus, nitrogen (nitrate + nitrite as N), organic enrichment/low DO, pathogen indicators, chlorides, sulfates and total dissolved solids. To date no TMDLs have been completed for this waterbody. A reopener clause will be established in the permit to allow for the requirement of more stringent effluent limitations and requirements as imposed by a TMDL. Until completion of TMDLs for the Lake Pontchartrain Basin, those suspected causes for impairment which are not directly attributed to the sanitary wastewater point source category have been eliminated in the formulation of effluent limitations and other requirements of this permit. Additionally, suspected causes of impairment which could be attributed to pollutants which were not determined to be discharged at a level which would cause, have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an excursion above any present state water quality standard were also eliminated.

Ammonia, Phosphorus, Nitrogen (nitrate + nitrite as N), and Organic Enrichment/Low DO

Due to the close proximity of the discharge to Bayou Manchac, which is impaired for ammonia, phosphorus, nitrogen and organic enrichment/low DO, more stringent limits for CBOD₅ and NH₃-N are proposed for this facility to ensure that the discharge will not cause or contribute to the above impairments.

Pathogen Indicators

To protect the receiving waterbody against high levels of pathogenic organisms, fecal coliform limitations have been established in the permit

Chlorides, Total Dissolved Solids, and Sulfates

Based on the size and nature of this facility, the department believes that there is little potential for the discharges to cause or contribute to the chlorides, TDS and sulfates impairments of this subsegment. Therefore, no limitations for chlorides, TDS and sulfates will be required of this facility.

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Final Effluent Limits:**OUTFALL 001**

Final limits shall become effective on the effective date of the permit and expire on the expiration date of the permit.

Effluent Characteristic	Monthly Avg. (lbs./day)	Monthly Avg.	Weekly Avg.	Basis
CBOD ₅	----	5 mg/l	10 mg/l	Best Professional Judgement (BPJ) based on the letter from Ferguson (EPA) to Region 6 Program Managers dated 1/06/03.
TSS	----	5 mg/l	10 mg/l	Best Professional Judgement (BPJ) based on the letter from Ferguson (EPA) to Region 6 Program Managers dated 1/06/03.
Ammonia-Nitrogen	----	2 mg/l	4 mg/l	Best Professional Judgement (BPJ) based on the letter from Ferguson (EPA) to Region 6 Program Managers dated 1/06/03.
Dissolved Oxygen**	----	5 mg/l	----	Best Professional Judgement (BPJ) based on the letter from Ferguson (EPA) to Region 6 Program Managers dated 1/06/03.

**This Dissolved Oxygen limit is the lowest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar month. When monitoring is conducted, the Dissolved Oxygen shall be analyzed immediately, as per 40 CFR 136.3.

Other Effluent Limitations:**1) Fecal Coliform**

The discharge from this facility is into a water body which has a designated use of Primary Contact Recreation. According to LAC 33:IX.1113.C.5.a, the fecal coliform standards for this water body are 200/100 ml and 400/100 ml. Therefore, the limits of 200/100 ml (Monthly Average) and 400/100 ml (Weekly Average) are proposed as Fecal Coliform limits in the permit. These limits are being proposed through Best Professional Judgement in order to ensure that the water body standards are not exceeded, and due to the fact that existing facilities have demonstrated an ability to comply with these limitations using present available technology.

2) pH

According to LAC 33:IX.3705.A.1., POTW's must treat to at least secondary levels. Therefore, in accordance with LAC 33:IX.5905.C., the pH shall not be less than 6.0 standard units nor greater than 9.0 standard units at any time.

3) Solids and Foam

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There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts in accordance with LAC 33:IX.1113.B.7.

X. PREVIOUS PERMITS:

The discharge is from a new facility. There are no previously issued LPDES Permits

XI. ENFORCEMENT AND SURVEILLANCE ACTIONS:**A) Inspections**

A review of the files indicates that no inspections have been performed at the proposed facility

B) Compliance and/or Administrative Orders

A review of the files indicates there have been no enforcement actions administered against the proposed facility.

C) DMR Review

There has been no discharge monitoring reports submitted for the proposed facility

XII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please be aware that the Department will be conducting a TMDL in the Lake Pontchartrain Basin scheduled for completion in 2011. The Department of Environmental Quality reserves the right to impose more stringent discharge limitations and/or additional restrictions as a result of the TMDL. Therefore, prior to upgrading or expanding this facility, the permittee should contact the Department to determine the status of the work being done to establish future effluent limitations and additional permit conditions.

At present, the Monitoring Requirements, Sample Types, and Frequency of Sampling as shown in the permit are standard for facilities of flows between 0.02 and 0.10 MGD.

<u>Effluent Characteristics</u>	<u>Monitoring Requirements</u>	
	<u>Measurement Frequency</u>	<u>Sample Type</u>
Flow	1/week	Measure
BOD ₅	1/month	Grab
Total Suspended Solids	1/month	Grab
Ammonia-Nitrogen	1/month	Grab
Dissolved Oxygen	1/month	Grab
Fecal Coliform Bacteria	1/month	Grab
pH	1/month	Grab

XIII TENTATIVE DETERMINATION:

On the basis of preliminary staff review, the Department of Environmental Quality has made a tentative determination to issue a new permit for the discharge described in this Statement of Basis.

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XIV REFERENCES:

Louisiana Water Quality Management Plan / Continuing Planning Process, Vol. 8, "Wasteload Allocations / Total Maximum Daily Loads and Effluent Limitations Policy," Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, 2005.

Louisiana Water Quality Management Plan / Continuing Planning Process, Vol. 5, "Water Quality Inventory Section 305(b) Report," Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, 1998.

Louisiana Administrative Code, Title 33 - Environmental Quality, Part IX - Water Quality Regulations, Chapter 11 - "Louisiana Surface Water Quality Standards," Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, 2004.

Louisiana Administrative Code, Title 33 - Environmental Quality, Part IX - Water Quality Regulations, Subpart 2 - "The LPDES Program," Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, 2004.

Low-Flow Characteristics of Louisiana Streams, Water Resources Technical Report No. 22, United States Department of the Interior, Geological Survey, 1980.

Index to Surface Water Data in Louisiana, Water Resources Basic Records Report No. 17, United States Department of the Interior, Geological Survey, 1989.

LPDES Permit Application to Discharge Wastewater, Ascension Wastewater Treatment, Inc, Manchac Harbor Crossing, August 30, 2007.